

Resources, a dedicated field staff, talented scientists, and the wisdom of top-notch agricultural leaders serving on the Delta Research Center's Advisory Board. The University of Missouri's Delta Research Center has advised farmers about boosting harvests and battling pests, while overseeing research with global implications. This includes the development of numerous strands of cotton and most notably 16 new soybean varieties, some with cyst nematode resistance, which has impact far beyond the rich cropland of the Bootheel of Missouri.

On September 2, 2011, the Delta Research Center will host the 50th Annual Field Day which showcases the world class studies they conduct, bringing together all sectors of the agriculture industry from those who plant the seed to those who market the product. It is always a day of learning and gives Missourians the tools needed to stay competitive in a global market. I look forward to joining hundreds of farmers, agri-businesses and others to learn the results of the special research that will be on display.

For our Nation to remain a leader in the production of food and fiber for our citizens and the world, we must continue important agriculture research like that conducted at the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center. Jake Fisher, superintendent and a dedicated employee for 50 years, summed it up best when he said, "Our team effort is not only about the results we bring about today; we must be focused on ten to fifteen years down the road, so we remain on the cutting-edge of agriculture production and technology."

Jake Fisher and his talented team at the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center demonstrate every day that hard work, vision, and public-private partnerships can be successful in advancing our Nation's rich agricultural resources.

I am very proud of the many accomplishments of the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the center on 50 years of service and monumental accomplishments in agriculture research.●

REMEMBERING DON DICKEY

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, Don Dickey, a longtime resident of Juneau, AK, passed away on June 25, 2011, at the age of 89. A native of Stockton, CA, Don moved to Alaska in 1952 to manage the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce. He returned to California in 1955 to work for the California State Chamber but in 1960 decided Alaska would be his home. It was then that he relocated, once again to Alaska, to organize the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce. He served as president for the Alaska State Chamber for 22 years.

In 1981, Don was named director of the Alaska Division of Tourism, working for Governor Hammond and then

Governor Sheffield. He was a key player in the growth of Alaska's tourism industry.

Terry Miller, who served as Don's deputy when he directed the Alaska Division of Tourism remembers Don's effort to persuade all of those in the Alaska tourism business to join together in a cooperative marketing effort to sell Alaska as a destination, rather than their individual businesses. "He got the little mom and pop operations, the cruise companies, the airlines, everybody with a stake in it to pool their marketing dollars." Alaska's former Lieutenant Governor John Coghill described Don as, "the one who probably laid the blueprint for what happened later." What happened later was the emergence of Alaska as the premier visitor destination it is today.

Those who knew Don best describe him in these terms: classy, gentle, dynamic, charming, a great promoter of Alaska, and a very funny guy. His admirers refer to him as one "who could totally captivate a room and be very persuasive," and as one "who could inspire and motivate others."

I have known Don since I was a young girl growing up in southeast Alaska. He always had a joke, a story, or funny quip to share. My family and I have fond memories of good times spent together.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate and the people of Alaska, grateful for his leadership, as well as his wit, I extend condolences to Don's wife Gen, his children Dru and Dane, and all of those who mourn the loss of this exemplary Alaskan.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIN DUFFY

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Erin Duffy, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Erin is a graduate of St. Thomas More High School in Rapid City, SD. Currently, she is attending Stanford University, where she is majoring in international relations and economics. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Erin for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN HAAHR

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Lauren Haahr, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Lauren is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of Iowa, where she is majoring in economics and ethics & public policy. She is a hard

worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lauren for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP HENZLIK

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Philip Henzlik, an intern in my Rapid City, SD office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Philip is a graduate of Stevens High School in Rapid City and recently of Wyoming State University in Laramie, WY. He will be attending Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, OR, majoring in dentistry. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Philip for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIK KEVIN NYBERG

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Erik Kevin Nyberg, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Erik is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, he is attending Augustana College, where he is majoring in economics, business administration, and political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Erik for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN WERTH

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Lauren Werth, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Lauren is a graduate of Aberdeen Central High School in Aberdeen, SD. Currently, she is attending Concordia College, where she is majoring in political science and French. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lauren for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:50 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2062. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 45 Meetinghouse Lane in Sagamore Beach, Massachusetts, as the "Matthew A. Pucino Post Office".

At 2:40 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2715. An act to provide the Consumer Product Safety Commission with greater authority and discretion in enforcing the consumer product safety laws, and for other purposes.

At 3:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 398. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to toll, during active-duty service abroad in the Armed Forces, the periods of time to file a petition and appear for an interview to remove the conditional basis for permanent resident status, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1933. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the requirements for admission of nonimmigrant nurses in health professional shortage areas.

At 7:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 365. An act to make a technical amendment to the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 70. Concurrent resolution correcting the enrollment of S. 365.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 398. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to toll, during active-duty service abroad in the Armed Forces, the periods of time to file a petition and appear for an interview to remove the conditional basis for permanent resident status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1933. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the requirements for admission of nonimmigrant nurses in health professional shortage areas; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2062. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 45 Meetinghouse Lane in Sagamore Beach, Massachusetts, as the "Matthew A. Pucino Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2801. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Quarterly Listings; Safety Zones; Security Zones; Special Local Regulations; Regulated Navigation Areas; Drawbridge Operation Regulations" (Docket No. USCG-2011-00732) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2802. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Quarterly Listings; Safety Zones; Security Zones; Special Local Regulations; Regulated Navigation Areas; Drawbridge Operation Regulations" (Docket No. USCG-2011-0732) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. MURRAY, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 277. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to veterans who were stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, while the water was contaminated at Camp Lejeune, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-42).

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. 1458. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-43).

By Mrs. MURRAY, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment:

S. 894. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2011, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-44).

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

*Matthew G. Olsen, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 1455. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to authorize certified States and tribes to use amounts made available from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund for hard rock and coal mining reclamation projects and to extend liability protection to certified States and Indian tribes carrying out approved abandoned mine reclamation programs; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts):

S. 1456. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and expand tax relief for national disasters; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1457. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a Made in America Block Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1458. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 1459. A bill to prohibit air carriers from charging a fee for the transportation of checked baggage by members of the Armed Forces traveling to or from an overseas contingency operation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. BURR):

S. 1460. A bill to grant the congressional gold medal, collectively, to the First Special Service Force, in recognition of its superior service during World War II; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1461. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the Food and Drug Administration's jurisdiction over certain tobacco products, and to protect jobs and small businesses involved in the sale, manufacturing and distribution of traditional and premium cigars; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 1462. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to encourage and support parent, family, and community involvement in schools, to provide needed integrated services and comprehensive supports to children for the ultimate goal of assisting students to stay in school, become successful learners, improve their academic achievement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 1463. A bill to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to protect breastfeeding by new mothers and to provide for reasonable break time for nursing mothers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.